

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An oil-based cleansing composition comprising (A) a nonionic surfactant having a HLB of 8 to 10, and (B) an oil component, and said IOB of (B) said oil component is 0.02 to 0.07, and the mass ratio of component (A) and component (B) is 1:4 to 2:1, and said oil-based cleansing composition satisfies the following conditions (1) and (2):

(1) the amount of water in the composition is less than 5% by mass, and

(2) a micellar aqueous solution phase or a bicontinuous microemulsion phase is formed when said oil-based cleansing composition and water are mixed in the ratio of 4:6.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The oil-based cleansing composition according to claim 1, wherein the alkyl chain length in (A) said nonionic surfactant is not less than 16 on the average.

4. (Previously Presented) The oil-based cleansing composition according to claim 1, wherein (B) said oil component contains not less than 80% of hydrocarbon oil and/or ester oil.

5. (Previously Presented) The oil-based cleansing composition according to claim 1, wherein (B) said oil component further contains 1 to 10% of silicone oil.

6. (Previously Presented) The oil-based cleansing composition of claim 1, wherein (C) a liquid fatty acid or a liquid alcohol with the alkyl chain length of not less than 16 is further contained.

7. (Previously Presented) The oil-based cleansing composition according to claim 6, wherein the mass ratio of component (C) and component (A) is in the range of 1:40 to 1:3.

8. (Previously Presented) The oil-based cleansing composition according to claim 1, wherein the below-described condition (3) is satisfied in addition to conditions (1) and (2):

(3) the viscosity measured with a B-type viscometer is not more than 10000 mPa·s when said oil-based cleansing composition and water is mixed in the mass ratio of 7:3.

9. (Previously Presented) The oil-based cleansing composition according to claim 3, wherein (B) said oil component contains not less than 80% of hydrocarbon oil and/or ester oil.

10. (Previously Presented) The oil-based cleansing composition according to claim 3, wherein (B) said oil component further contains 1 to 10% of silicone oil.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The oil-based cleansing composition of claim 5, wherein (C) a liquid fatty acid or a liquid alcohol with the alkyl chain length of not less than 16 is further contained.

15. (New) The oil-based cleansing composition according to claim 1 wherein upon mixing the oil-based cleansing composition and water in the ratio of 4:6, a micellar aqueous solution phase is formed which is optically isotropic exhibiting a clear to slightly blue, translucent appearance.

16. (New) The oil-based cleansing composition according to claim 1 wherein upon mixing the oil-based cleansing composition and water in the ratio of 4:6, a bicontinuous microemulsion phase is formed which is optically isotropic exhibiting a transparent appearance.